Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/29/2020 6:00:00 AM
First name: Raymond M
Last name: Cox
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of Midas Gold Idaho's Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Public participation is a huge part of the permitting process and I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts.

The U.S. Forest Service[rsquo]s online meeting room has made it easy to review the document and comment within the 60-day timeframe. Looking at the document, there is a clear advantage to Alternative 2 compared to the other options. According to a figure in Chapter 4, Hanger Flats pit lake would fill by year 14 of operations in Alternative 2. Under Alternative 1, it would take 19 years. The faster the lake fills up, the faster groundwater levels will recover around the lake. Alternative 3 and 4 would both delay the project by two years and cost substantially more. Alternative 3 would also place the tailings storage facility in a pristine reach of the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River. While Alternative 4 would put mine traffic to site right next to the river.

The Stibnite Gold Project is the type of project our state needs. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit this project, using alternative two presented by Midas Gold, as expeditiously as possible. There is no need to extend the comment period. Sixty days is plenty of time to comment and we need the benefits of this project now.